Ravi—Beas Water Dispute

360. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ravi—Beas water dispute among Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana has not been settled so far and Rajasthan is using excess water;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Chief Minister of Rajasthan has appealed to the Punjab Chief Minister not to reopen the issue;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for the delay in finding a solution to the dispute; and

(d) what is the present position and what efforts have been made/steps contemplated to solve the issue amicably?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) (c) and (d) There is no Ravi-Beas Water dispute so far as Rajasthan is concerned. The Ravi-Beas Water dispute between Punjab and Haryana was referred to a Tribunal, constituted under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act 1956, on 2.4.1986. On the Report given by the Tribunal the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rasiasthan and the Central Government has sought explanation and guidance on certain points from the Tribnal. Rajasthan's utilisation of Ravi-Beas waters is not in excess of its share invisaged in the 1981 inter-State agreement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

World Bank Assistance for Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Projects

361. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that assistance from World Bank was obtained for implementing the Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Projects under an agreement signed in 1991; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An agreement between Government of India and the World Bank was signed on June 10, 1991 for International Development Association Credit of Special Drawing Rights of 96.2 million and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development Loan of US $ 23 million for Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project. The Project would strengthen existing agencies responsible for dam safety assurance in the Central Government and the four States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, including upgrading standards and procedures for dam safety inspections and reviews. Rehabilitation work would be carried out at selected sites and basic safety facilities would be upgraded at important existing dams. Hydro-meteorological data collection and early flood warning systems will be installed at one or more river basins involving inter-State operations.

Setting up of advisory group by National Water Development Agency

362. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Advisory Group has been set up for doing economic evaluation of the proposals formulated by the National Water Development Agency for inter-basin transfer of water; and

(b) if so, what are the recommendations made by the group?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) An Advisory Group on economic evaluation of the proposals for inter-basin transfers was set up in